MINUTES OF THE ELECTRONIC EPF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2026

Date: Thursday, 1st of October 2026
Time: 18:00 CET

DELEGATES

FULL MEMBER NATIONS with Voting Rights: Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine.

FULL MEMBER NATIONS without Voting Rights (MF not paid): Armenia, Belarus

PROVISIONAL MEMBER without Voting Rights: Moldova

EPF EC MEMBERS: Bjorn Astad, Tetiana Melnyk, Xavier de Puytorac, Jorgen Rasmussen, Sandro Rossi, Myriam Busselot, Tero Hyttinen.

Total votes 46 (39 Nations + 7 EC)

Quorum for the EPF Constitution Change (1/3 of the Full Member Nations) 14

Required Majority for the EPF Constitution Change 2/3 of the Votes Cast

NATIONS PRESENT IN ZOOM Meeting: Austria, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, Great Britain, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Luxembourg, Norway, Serbia, Slovenia, Sweden.

EPF EC Members PRESENT IN ZOOM Meeting: Bjorn Astad, Tetiana Melnyk, Xavier de Puytorac, Jorgen Rasmussen, Sandro Rossi, Myriam Busselot, Tero Hyttinen.

Proposal

The proposal for amendments to the EPF Constitution and Bylaws had been circulated to all Member Federations by email together with the invitation to the Extraordinary General Assembly 2026, issued on 1 September 2026. Therefore, all Nations, even those which did not attend the Zoom meeting, had a possibility to read the proposal.

https://www.europowerlifting.org/fileadmin/data/general_assembly/2026/Invitation_to_the_EPF_XGA2026.pdf

Welcome by the President

The EPF President, Bjørn Astad, welcomed all Member Federation Delegates and stated that this Zoom meeting is for information and discussion purpose only.

The President explained that the Extraordinary General Assembly had been called to consider a comprehensive reform of the EPF Constitution and Bylaws, with the objective of creating a stronger, fairer and more modern Federation, and voting on the suggested proposal.

He outlined the need to modernise the governance structure by establishing a clearer separation between the governance responsibilities of the Executive Committee and the advisory and operational functions of the Commissions. He emphasised that the proposed amendments would ensure equal treatment of all Commissions and enable the General Assembly to elect Executive Committee members based on the competencies and experience required to govern the Federation effectively.

The President also highlighted the proposed requirement for an absolute majority vote in the election of key leadership positions. He explained that this requirement was intended to ensure that elected officeholders had broad support among the Member Federations.

The President further explained that the proposed amendments were interconnected and should therefore be considered and voted on as one comprehensive package. He noted that, if approved, the new governance structure would be implemented in time for the March 2027 elections. If the amendments were not approved, the existing governance structure would remain in place until the following election cycle in 2031.

The President encouraged the Member Federations to support the proposed amendments, highlighting their expected contribution to clearer accountability, stronger democratic legitimacy, more professional event delivery and greater alignment with modern sports governance standards.

Discussion

The President of the Danish Powerlifting Federation, Eva Buxbom, expressed her concern regarding the absence of an opportunity to amend the proposal during the discussion. She stated that she considered the first part of the proposal reasonable but did not agree with the second part and, consequently, would vote against the proposal.

The EPF President, Bjørn Astad, explained that, pursuant to Article 2.6 of the EPF Bylaws, the proposal could not be amended during the Extraordinary General Assembly. He explained that the proposed amendments were interconnected with corresponding provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws and that any changes would need to be reviewed comprehensively to ensure consistency throughout the Federation's regulatory framework and to avoid discrepancies between the relevant provisions.

The President of the Danish Powerlifting Federation further stated that she did not support the proposed requirement for the EPF President, Secretary General, Vice President and Treasurer to be elected by an absolute majority. She expressed her preference for retaining the existing simple-majority voting system.

The EPF President responded that, in his view, the key positions in the EC of the Federation should have the support of at least 51% of the Member Federations.

The President of the Slovenian Powerlifting Federation, Urban Mur, asked about the absence of provisions describing the Commissions in the proposed regulatory documents.

The EPF Secretary General, Tetiana Melnyk, explained that detailed regulations governing the Commissions had already been prepared and would be submitted for consideration and approval at the Annual General Assembly in Sweden in 2027.

The President of the Slovenian Powerlifting Federation expressed his approval and support for the proposed amendments and stated that, in his opinion, a similar governance structure should also be considered for implementation within the International Powerlifting Federation.

The Secretary General of the Swedish Powerlifting Federation, Ola Silvdahl, expressed his appreciation for the work undertaken in preparing the proposal and stated that he considered the proposed reforms both very sensible and forward-looking.

Voting Procedure

The EPF Secretary General informed the Member Federations that the EPF Constitution provides for electronic voting and that the vote on the proposed amendments would be conducted electronically through the independent voting platform NemoVote.

The Secretary General asked whether any Member Federation entitled to vote had not received the voting links. She requested that any Federation experiencing difficulties receiving or accessing the voting links contact her directly for assistance, in order to ensure that all Member Federations with voting rights were able to participate in the vote and contribute to the decision concerning the future governance structure of the EPF.

Closing

There being no further matters raised, the EPF President, Bjørn Astad, thanked the Member Federations for their participation and closed the meeting.